

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior listings of claims in the application.

1. (Original) Snowboard binding comprising a base plate with a heel strap attached on both sides and with a highback shell attached to the inner side of the heel strap, characterized in that the heel strap (5) has a pivoting attachment to the base plate (1) around an axis (6) that runs transverse to the base plate (1), the lower edge area of the highback shell (7) also lying on the heel strap (5) in the middle when in the riding position, and with a device to fix the pivot angle of the heel strap (5).
2. (Original) Snowboard binding according to Claim 1, characterized in that the highback shell (7) has a pivoting attachment to the heel strap (5) around an axis (11) that runs transverse to the base plate (1), so that the highback shell (7) can tilt forward from the riding position when the rider steps out of the binding.
3. (Currently Amended) Snowboard binding according to ~~one of the aforementioned claims, Claim 1,~~ characterized in that the base plate (1) has sidewalls (2, 3) extending upwards for the pivot attachment of the heel strap (5).
4. (Currently Amended) Snowboard binding according to ~~one of the aforementioned claims, Claim 1,~~ characterized in that the device to fix the pivot axis of the heel strap (5) is positioned at a distance from the pivot axis (6) of the heel strap (5).
5. (Currently Amended) Snowboard binding according to ~~one of the aforementioned claims, Claim 1,~~ characterized in

that there is a damping pad between the heel strap (5) and the base plate (1).

6. (Currently Amended) Snowboard binding according to ~~one of the aforementioned claims~~, Claim 1, characterized in that the device to fix the pivot angle of the heel strap (5) pushes the heel strap (5) against the base plate (1).
7. (Original) Snowboard binding according to Claim 5, characterized in that the attachment results from a frictional connection or form closure between the base plate (1) and the heel strap (5).
8. (Original) Snowboard binding according to Claim 7, characterized in that a toothing arrangement is provided to achieve form closure between the base plate (1) and the heel strap (5).
9. (Currently Amended) Snowboard binding according to ~~one of the aforementioned claims~~, Claim 1, characterized in that a screw (12, 13) is provided that engages with both the heel strap (5) and the base plate (1) so as to press the heel strap (5) against the base plate (1).
10. (Original) Snowboard binding according to Claim 9, characterized in that the screw (12, 13) extends through the sidewall (2, 3) at a distance from the heel strap pivot axis (6) and is then fed through a slit (14, 15) in the heel strap (5) and/or the sidewall (2, 3).
11. (Currently Amended) Snowboard binding according to ~~one of the Claims 1 to 6~~, Claim 1, characterized in that a screw gearing arrangement is provided to adjust and fix the pivot angle of the heel strap (5).

12. (Original) Snowboard binding according to Claim 11, characterized in that the screw gearing arrangement comprises a threaded spindle (19) with its ends positioned on the base plate (1), and which extends through a nut (23) that engages with the heel strap (5).